

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph 5 beginning on page 6 and ended on page 7 with the following amended paragraph:

A mat 26 rests upon an upper surface 28 of the bottom wall
14. Turning also to FIG. 2, the mat 26 has a plurality of
apertures 3230 therethrough and upwardly ascending projections
3432 therefrom. Preferably, the mat is formed of a medical
grade silicone or some other medically suitable, flexible
elastomer or plastic, having sufficient heat resistance
capabilities to withstand the heat of a steam sterilization
cycle, and which is inert to chemical sterilants, and
sufficiently nonabsorbent to chemical sterilants, such as
hydrogen peroxide and ethylene oxide, so as to not interfere
with the sterilization process. The style, arrangement and
number of the apertures 30 and projections 32 can be varied by
those of skill in the art.